

**Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians  
Tribal Council Meeting  
November 3, 1996**

**Closed Session:** A closed session was not held.

**Called to Order:** 10:40 a.m.

**Opening Ceremony:** Was conducted by Doris Adams

**Council Present:** Patti Dyer-Deckrow, Frank Ettawageshik, Janet Shomin, Alice Yellowbank, Barry Laughlin, George Anthony

**Council Absent:** Shirley Oldman

**Staff Present:** Susan Keller, Michelle Chingwa, Kristi Houghton

**Guests Present:** See attached.

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**Council Arrives:** Shirley Oldman arrived at 10:55 a.m.

**AGENDA:**

The agenda was modified.

**Motion** was made by **Alice Yellowbank** and was **Seconded** by **George Anthony** to approved agenda as amended

**Vote:** 7 YES   0 NO   0 ABSTAINED                      **Motion Carried**

Chairman Ettawageshik turned the meeting over to Vice-Chairperson Shirley Oldman in order to make a phone call.

**MINUTES**

Minutes were corrected.

**Motion** was made by **George Anthony** and was **Seconded** by **Patti Dyer-Deckrow** to accept the minutes as amended.

**Vote:** 7 YES   0 NO   0 ABSTAINED                      **Motion Carried**

The meeting was turned back over to Chairman Ettawageshik at 11:19 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

The bills were discussed. Chairman Ettawageshik will attempt to complete his mileage forms in a more timely manner.

Concern was raised that Killer & Associates were paid before Council approved the bill. The Tribal Administrator issued the approval for the bill to be paid. It was stated that anything \$2,000.00 or more needs to come to Council for prior approval.

**Recess:** Recess was called at 11:47 a.m.

**Recess:** Meeting called back to order at 12:10 p.m.

**Motion** was made by **Barry Laughlin** and was **Seconded** by **Alice Yellowbank** to approve bills as amended.

**Vote:** 7 YES   0 No   0 ABSTAINED                      **Motion Carried**

**Motion** was made by **Shirley Oldman** and was **Seconded** by **Alice Yellowbank** that from this point on Council requests the budget forecasts from all departments for the remainder of the year be brought by the Tribal Administrator to Tribal council at the next meeting. This is to include specifically a list of all expenditures which will meet or exceed \$2,000.00. All expenditures over \$2,000.00 need prior approval by Council before the debt is

incurred.

**Vote:** George Anthony 1 No Janet Shomin 1 YES Shirley Oldman 1 NO Barry Laughlin 1 NO Alice Yellowbank 1 YES Patti Dyer-Deckrow 1 YES Frank Ettawageshik 1 NO Motion Carried

### **Killer & Associates**

Killer & Associates Contract was discussed. There were some questions regarding exactly what the expenses would be that Francis Killer would incur while here. It was decided that Council would ask Francis Killer these questions when he arrived. It was stated that the Tribal Administrator & Office Manager will be in all week to assist in the Accounting Department.

**Motion** was made by **George Anthony** and was **Seconded** by **Barry Laughlin** to approve the contract for Killer & Associates as presented.

**Vote:** 7 YES 0 NO 0 ABSTAINED **Motion Carried**

**Public Comment:** Public comment opened at 1:11 p.m. Shirley Oldman gave a verbal report on the presentation at the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame..

**Public Comment:** Public comment closed at 1:16 p.m.

### **BLACKBIRD MUSEUM**

Doris Adams introduced a proposal on a fund raiser being planned to benefit the Blackbird Museum. Julie Harrington, a board member of the museum, gave a verbal report on what the fund raiser would entail. This fund raiser would take place on August 23, 1997 at the Bay View Auditorium. Robert Tree Cody, a musician will perform. Julie is checking into such things as accommodations and transportation. The contract for receiving Robert Tree Cody's services needs to be signed by the 11th of November. The fee for this would be \$3,500.00. Julie & Doris are seeking Council's approval of this contract and need them to sign it.

**Motion** was made by **Barry Laughlin** and was **Seconded** by **Patti Dyer-Deckrow** to sign the contract for Robert Tree Cody of \$3,500.00.

**Vote:** 7 YES 0 NO 0 ABSTAINED **Motion Carried**

**Recess:** A recess was called at 1:38 p.m.

**Recess:** Meeting was called back to order at 1:45 p.m.

### **TRIBAL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

#### **Emmet Street Purchase**

Chairman Ettawageshik gave a brief report on the Emmet Street Purchase. Zoning is approved. Planning and Zoning will develop a letter from their minutes of the meeting and forward to Chairman Ettawageshik for signature. The insurance binder has been received from Jeanie from Madigan Insurance. Chairman Ettawageshik stated that a resolution is needed for making an application for Land in Trust of this property. The financing at this point is not a conventional mortgage. This is a \$130,000.00 line of credit. \$104,000.00 is for the purchase of the building. \$26,000.00 is for preparing the building for office space such as paving, electrical wiring, and telephone wiring. A system that allows E-mail from office to office is being investigated. This would allow us to have a phone system that encompasses several different sites. Chairman Ettawageshik hopes to close on the building sometime in the upcoming week.

### **REPAIRS:**

There is an area of concern regarding the basement and the fact that it is leaking. LTBB would need to have this

fixed before they purchase the building, or have the seller's lower their price of the building.

**Guests Arrive:** Francis Killer arrived at 2:00 p.m.

### **SAULT STE. MARIE**

NORAM gave a verbal presentation on the proposal from the Sault Tribe for their support of our compact resolution passage. The proposal was discussed with Council by Rick Weiner, Mike Jacobson, and Frank Shunock. Different aspects of were discussed. Jim Bransky composed a letter for Council authorizing Chairman Ettawageshik to begin negotiations with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

**Motion** was made by **Shirley Oldman** and was **Seconded** by **Barry Laughlin** to accept the Tribal Court's and Probation Officer's written reports.

**Vote:** 7 YES 0 NO 0 ABSTAINED **Motion Carried**

It was stated by the Tribal Administrator that when Janet Shomin calls with issues related to staff that she is to be kept in the loop.

**Council Departs:** Janet Shomin left at 4:10 p.m.

**Motion** was made by **Alice Yellowbank** and was **Seconded** by **Shirley Oldman** to accept the Health report.

**Vote:** 6 YES 0 NO 0 ABSTAINED **Motion Carried**

**Motion** was made by **Barry Laughlin** and **Seconded** by **Shirley Oldman** to accept the Substance Abuse report.

**Vote:** 6 YES 0 NO 0 ABSTAINED **Motion Carried**

**Motion** was made by **George Anthony** and was **Seconded** by **Alice Yellowbank** accept the Planners written report

**Vote:** 6 YES 0 NO 0 ABSTAINED **Motion Carried**

### **TRIBAL ACCOUNTANT:**

#### **Killer & Associates**

Council had questions on the contract with Killer which Francis Killer addressed at this meeting. Francis Killer stated that basically LTBB has 2.5 million that will be reviewed in an A-128 audit. George Anthony asked Francis Killer how they would address the issue of gas for the NRC vehicles. Francis felt that a good way to address this would be to arrange with a Purchase Order system with local creditors.

### **St. Martin's Island**

St. Martin's Island was briefly discussed and the fact that LTBB wants to put this land into trust.

**Motion** was made by **Barry Laughlin** and was **Seconded** by **Alice Yellowbank** to adopt **Resolution #11039601**.

**Vote:** 6 YES 0 NO 0 ABSTAINED **Motion Carried**

At this point in the meeting Tribal Council discussed the resolution concerning the Sault Tribe. Jim Bransky and Mike Jacobson had drafted. Chairman Ettawageshik read this resolution aloud to Council.

**Motion** was made by **Barry Laughlin** and was **Seconded** by **Alice Yellowbank** to adopt **Resolution #11036902** authorizing Chairman Ettawageshik to negotiate further on the lines of agreement with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe.

**Vote:** 5 YES **George Anthony** 1 NO 0 ABSTAINED **Motion Carried**

It was stated that Chairman Ettawageshik not sign any agreement until all of council have received the agreements and had a chance to review the information by Thursday, November 7. This information may come by hand

delivery or fax.

**Motion** was made by **George Anthony** and was **Seconded** by **Barry Laughlin** to accept the Accountant's written report.

**Vote:** 6 YES   0 NO   0 ABSTAINED

**Motion Carried**

George Anthony had previously requested Jim Bransky to compose a letter regarding the biologist position and is seeking approval from Council to start the process of hiring a Biologist.

**Motion** was made by **Alice Yellowbank** and was **Seconded** by **George Anthony** to adopt the wildlife biologist description and starting the hiring process.

**Vote:** 6 YES   0 NO   0 ABSTAINED

**Motion Carried**

**Comments:** If the newsletter comes out early enough, Susan will put this information into it.

George Anthony gave information to Council regarding a trip to Oneida Tribe in Green Bay that is being planned for NRC. The Oneida's have invited LTBB's NRC over to view their NRC functions. The dates for this are November 21, 22, 23, 24. George Anthony, Al Colby, and the entire NRC Commissions staff with the exception of Vernon Gasco, will be attending, along with Frank Ettawageshik. George is seeking Council approval as this is an item totaling over \$2,000.00

**Motion** was made by **Patti Dyer-Deckrow** and was **Seconded** by **Alice Yellowbank** approving the expenses of the training to be conducted at the Oneida Tribe Reservation.

**Vote:** 6 YES   0 NO   0 ABSTAINED

**Motion Carried**

**Comments:** Chairman Ettawageshik and the Planner will be attending as well. Patti Dyer-Deckrow would like other departments investigated while staff are on site.

**Motion** was made by **Patti Dyer-Deckrow** and was **Seconded** by **Shirley Oldman** to accept NRC's written and verbal report.

**Vote:** 6 YES   0 NO   0 ABSTAINED

**Motion Carried**

**Motion** was made by **George Anthony** and was **Seconded** by **Shirley Oldman** to adopt list A of new LTBB members.

**Vote:** 6 YES   0 NO   0 ABSTAINED

**Motion Carried**

**Motion** was made by **Alice Yellowbank** and was seconded by **George Anthony** to accept Jim Bransky's verbal report.

**Vote:** 6 YES   0 NO   0 ABSTAINED

**Motion Carried**

## **TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

### **Emmet Street Space**

During the Tribal Administrator's report the following departments were identified as the departments who would remain in the US 31 office: Health, Education, Social Services, Substance Abuse, Enrollment, and Housing.

In the new office on Emmet Street the basement at this point could not be counted as office space. The plan for this building would include Administration, Chairman, Executive Assistant, Police, and NRC.

It was identified that a spot for a Communications person will be needed. Council meetings will still be held at the US31 office.

## **PERSONNEL:**

It was identified by Council that everything on the 638 budget is a priority position. Tribal Council complimented staff via the Tribal Administrator for a job well done.

**Motion** was made by **Patti Dyer-Deckrow** and was **Seconded** by **George Anthony** to accept the Tribal Administrators written and verbal report.

## **TRIBAL SEAL**

Barry stated that Marcia is looking into getting the Tribal Seal copyrighted.

## **JUDGMENT FUNDS:**

The proposal submitted by Bay Mills has been gaining support. The three Lower Peninsula tribes were identified as Grand Traverse Band, Little River Band, and Little Traverse Bay Bands. In a meeting between the three Lower Peninsula Tribes, the Chairman conducted a meeting and agreed to bring back to their Councils a suggestion of how the funds could be dispersed. Basically the proposal was that the three Lower Peninsula tribes would combine their funds and distribute them equally between the three.

## **PER CAPITA**

Chairman Ettawageshik stated that a "Big hunk of money has political power". He stated that he feels that if we divided up the judgment funds and members received per capita payments, then LTBB would be playing into the hands of a government that wants us to lose political power. He would prefer that we take the money and invest it and set up programs for our elders. He further stated that there will have to be a referendum that decides this issue. Concern was expressed by Council regarding the Sault Tribe and Bay Mills recommendations for the distribution of the judgment funds.

## **LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST**

Chairman Ettawageshik will be attending a Legislative Breakfast being held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November in Lansing. He will also be spending the following day at a Commission's meeting.

## **NCAI**

Alice Yellowbank discussed the NCAI convention that has been switched to November. She would like to attend this convention. Several issues were raised as to why this would be a good convention to attend on a regular basis. LTBB is not a member of NCAI. The annual fee of being a member is \$5000.00. LTBB Council can attend these conventions but they cannot vote. Discussion ensued on NCAI and NIGA.

**Motion** was made by **George Anthony** and was **Seconded** by **Patti Dyer-Deckrow** for two people to attend the NCAI Convention

**Vote:** 5 YES                      0 NO                      0 ABSTAINED                      **Motion Carried**

**Council Departs:** Patti Dyer-Deckrow left at 6:11 p.m.

**Motion** was made by **George Anthony** and was **Seconded** by **Alice Yellowbank** to accept the Tribal Chairman's verbal report.

**Vote:** 4 YES                      0 NO                      0 ABSTAINED                      **Motion Carried**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Tribal Administrator gave a brief report regarding the wreath that was placed at Holy Childhood cemetery on All Soul's Day. Approximately 30 people attended.

**Motion** was made by **George Anthony** and was **Seconded** by **Barry Laughlin** to accept the Tribal Administrator's verbal report.

**Vote:** 4 YES                      0 NO                      0 ABSTAINED                      **Motion Carried**

#### **CONSTITUTION:**

Jim Bransky stated that he is working on the draft copy for the Constitution Committee. He has been directed to make it resemble legislation that has passed recently. He is incorporating the changes that the Committee has made to the Judicial section.

**Motion** was made by **Barry Laughlin** and was **Seconded** by **Alice Yellowbank** to accept the verbal Constitution report.

**Vote:** 4 YES                      0 NO                      0 ABSTAINED                      **Motion Carried**

#### **PERSONNEL**

A discussion was held regarding personnel. It was stated that the Personnel Committee needs to form reports that inform Council of hiring, firings, promotions, etc.

#### **FACILITIES:**

No report.

George Anthony made an addition to his NRC report. He informed Council that NRC was having difficulty with vendor sheets and getting them signed. He stated that at the last NRC meeting the NRC Commission authorized Maurice Field to be an authorized signer for the NRC Department. It was stated that this information should be forwarded to the Accounting Office.

**Motion** was made by **Barry Laughlin** and was **Seconded** by **Alice Yellowbank** to accept the recommendation for Maurice Fields to be an authorized signer for the NRC Department.

**Vote:** 4 YES                      0 NO                      0 ABSTAINED                      **Motion Carried**

Compensation for Lavern Sherette was discussed. George informed Council that Lavern has returned the compensation that he had received from LTBB. Lavern was not sworn in previous to him receiving this compensation. George gave a recommendation to approve Lavern Sherette to the NRC Commission.

**Public Comment:** Public comment opened at 6:20 p.m.

**Public Comment:** Public comment closed at 6:20 p.m.

A brief discussion was held regarding the upcoming Council meetings of November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion** was made by **George Anthony** and was **Seconded** by **Barry Laughlin** to adjourn the Tribal Council meeting at 6:22 p.m.

**Vote:** 4 YES                      0 NO                      0 ABSTAINED                      **Motion Carried**

The above minutes have been read and approved as written:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Barry Laughlin, Tribal Council Secretary**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**